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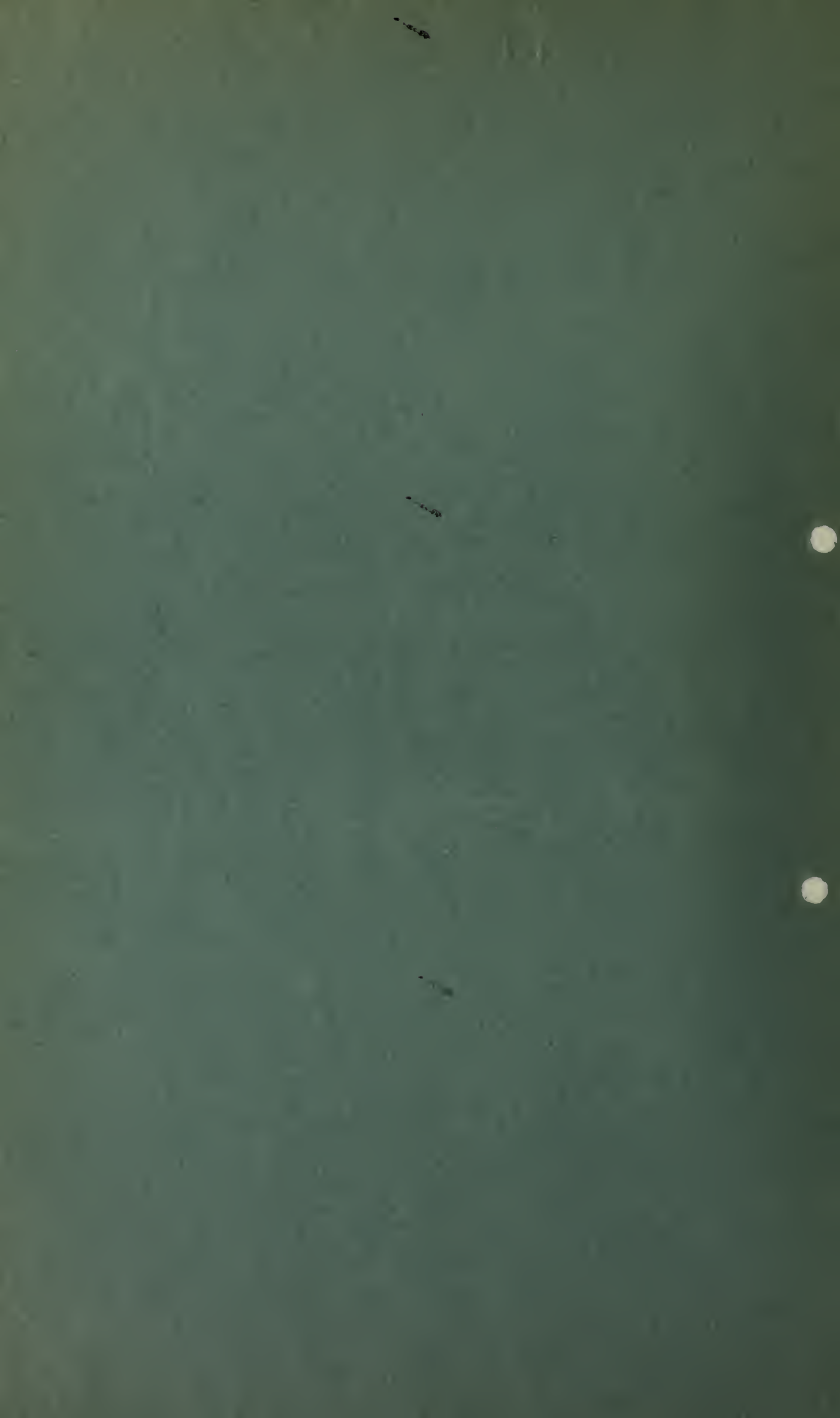


BLANDFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1960.



STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G.B. Hopkins, M.B., Ch.B., B.Pharm., D.P.H.

holding appointments of:-

Assistant County Medical Officer.	}	5/11th of time.
School Medical Officer.		

Medical Officer of Health - Blandford Rural District.	}	6/11th of Time.
Medical Officer of Health - Borough of Blandford Forum.		
Medical Officer of Health - Wimborne and Cranborne R.D.C.		
Medical Officer of Health - Wimborne Minster Urban District.		

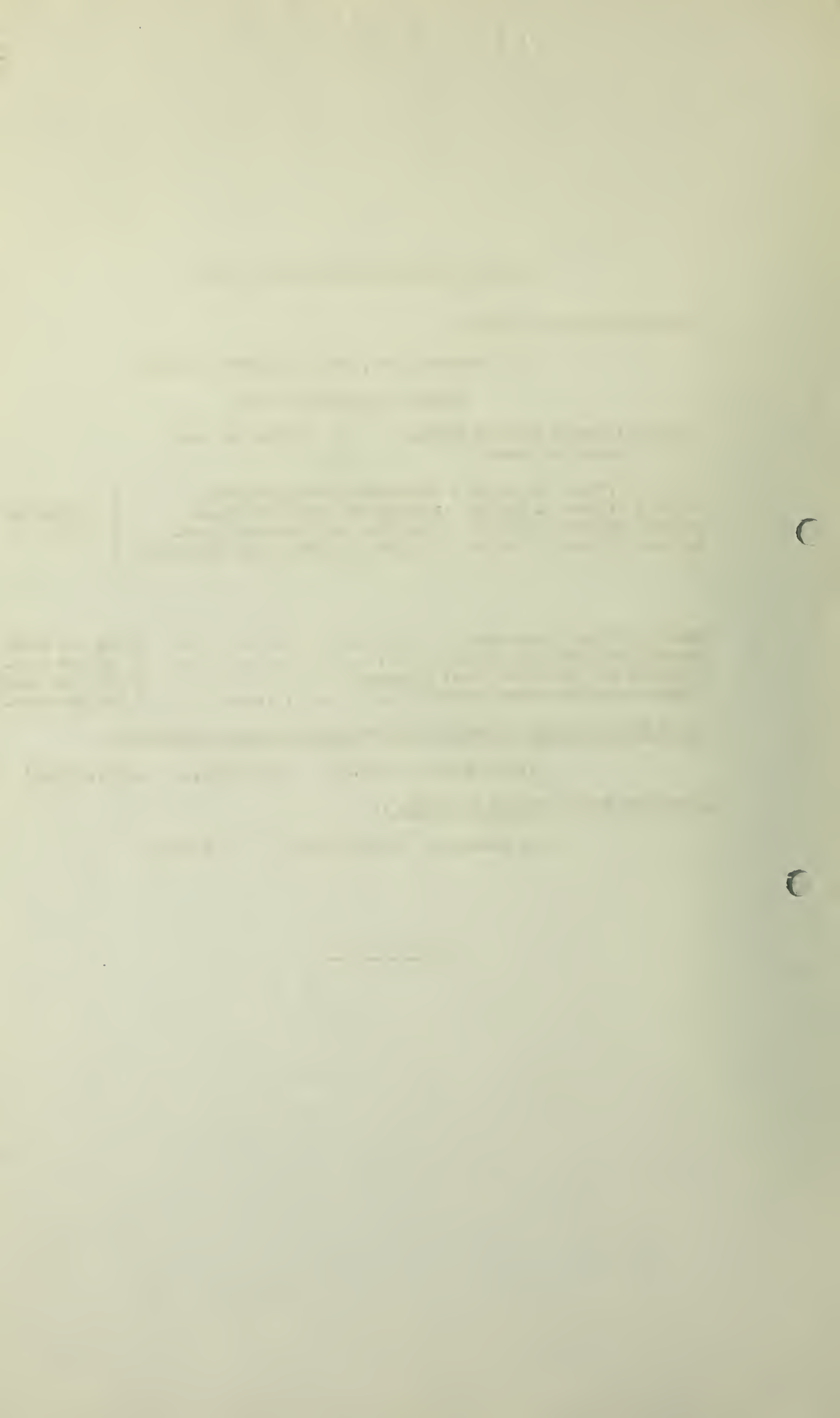
Blandford Rural District.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ day per week.
Borough of Blandford Forum.....	$\frac{1}{4}$ day per week.
Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District.....	$1\frac{1}{2}$ days per week.
Wimborne Minster Urban District.....	$\frac{2}{3}$ day per week.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR with combined duties as Surveyor:-

G.S.C. Udall, M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I., A.F.S. (Eng.)

ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :-

M. Stockley. Cert. R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.



BLANDFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1960.

COUNCILLORS:-

CHAIRMAN:-..... C.B.C. Roe.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:-..... C.B.O. Jones.

E.G. Bailey.

Miss A.G. Biddlecombe.

J.F. Brown.

K.R. Browning.

Lt. Col. A.L. Cameron DSO., MC.,

E.E. Cossins.

A.B.C. Davis.

E.K. Hopper.

F.H.B. Mainwaring-
Burton.
Capt.F. Ratsey R.N.(Rd)

Dr. R.M. Taylor.

REPORT OF THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE
LAND OFFICE

1881

ANNUAL REPORT

Under the provisions of the Act of March 3, 1879, approved March 3, 1879, the Commissioner of the Land Office is required to submit to the Senate and House of Representatives an annual report of the operations of the office during the preceding year.

REPORT OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1881

PRESENTED TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AT THE ANNUAL SESSION, 1882

WASHINGTON: GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1882

LAND OFFICE

Nordon,

Salisbury Road,

BLANDFORD FORUM.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I submit for your consideration my
Annual Report for the year 1960.

The report is prepared in accordance
with the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959, and
Ministry of Health Circular 1/61, and incorporates
details supplied by your chief public health inspector.

G.B. Hopkins.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DECEMBER, 1961.

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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres.....	61, 717.
Population as estimated by Registrar General (mid-year).....	12, 490
Rateable value at 1st April, 1960.....	£99, 992
Estimated number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1960.....	2, 890
Penny rate product as at 1st April, 1960.....	£394

AS SUPPLIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Comparative Statistics.</u>		
				<u>Blandford</u>	<u>England &</u>	<u>Adminis-</u>
				<u>Rural.</u>	<u>Wales.</u>	<u>trative Cy.</u>
Total registered.....	196	94	102			
Legitimate.....	189	91	98			
Illegitimate.....	7	3	4			
Standardised Rate.....				17. 3	17. 1.	15. 4
<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>						
Total registered.....	3	3	-			
<u>DEATHS</u>						
Total registered.....	93	48	45			
Standardised Rate.....				9.	11. 5	12. 5
<u>Comparability Factors:-</u>						
	Births....		1.11.	Deaths....		1.21.

SECTION A
NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area.....	61, 717
Population as estimated by Registrar General - mid-year.....	12, 490.

SECTION BPUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

This is situated at Dorchester and provides an efficient bacteriological service.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

This is run by the Dorset County Council and operates day and night from Castleman House, Blandford Forum.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

The Dorset County Council provide an ante-natal clinic and an Infant Welfare Centre once a fortnight in Blandford.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The County Home Help Scheme provides a service in Blandford and surrounding district.

The following information is being furnished to you for your information only. It is not intended to be used for any other purpose. The information is being furnished to you for your information only. It is not intended to be used for any other purpose. The information is being furnished to you for your information only. It is not intended to be used for any other purpose.

Name		Address		City	
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54
55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66
67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76	77	78
79	80	81	82	83	84
85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96
97	98	99	100	101	102

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SECTION C
PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
DISEASES.

Scarlet fever.....	8
Measles.....	40
Pneumonia.....	21
Food poisoning.....	1
Tuberculosis.....	1
Sonne dysentery.....	18
Whooping cough.....	6
Erysipelas.....	1

TUBERCULOSIS

At the end of the year, the number of cases registered was:-

	<u>FULMONARY.</u>	<u>NON-FULMONARY</u>
Males.....	20	Males..... 3
Females.....	11	Females..... 1

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION STATISTICS

BCG	Poliomyelitis.		Diphtheria.		Whooping Cough.		Tetanus.		Smallpox.	
	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.	P.	B.
85.	760.	1017.	147.	227.	135.	98.	233.	114.	146.	101.

SECTION D
STATISTICAL TABLES - 1960

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	1	1
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough.....	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	4	1	5
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	1	1	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	1	6	7
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	-	-
16. Diabetes.....	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	10	8	18
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	11	5	16
19. Hypertension with heart disease.....	1	0	1
20. Other heart disease.....	10	14	24
21. Other circulatory disease.....	3	-	3
22. Influenza.....	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia.....	2	-	2
24. Bronchitis.....	3	1	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.....	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.....	-	-	-
32. Other defined and illdefined diseases.....	2	4	6
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	-	-	-
34. All other accidents.....	-	1	1
35. Suicide.....	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-	-

A full time Assistant County Medical Officer of Health commenced work in the area of the district councils for which I act, in May. This substantially released me for work in the districts and most of my time was thus occupied for the rest of the year.

There are two public health inspectors, one chief and one additional, each combining that office with that of surveyor, and each operating in half the district. The increase in their surveying duties has had marked repercussions in the time available for their public health duties, each having had much less than half time to spare for this purpose. This resulted in much less than the equivalent of one public health inspector for the whole district, which cannot be regarded as adequate provision.

VERMINOUS PERSONS, PREMISES AND ARTICLES.

No action under sections 83, 84 or 85 was recommended to the Council during the year.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

Your inspectors were obliged by pressure of surveying work to reduce the number of inspections of food premises from 257 visits in 1959 to 82 in 1960. The state of the premises was more satisfactory than ever before, and improvements were encouraged wherever possible. All received a mains water supply and most had good drainage systems. Shops and stores were kept clean. In two cases the proprietors were asked to carry out improvements within a limited time.

FOOD POISONING.

One very interesting case of Salmonella infection occurred which demonstrates the difficulty normally experienced in finding the source of infection. In this case two isolated and unusual laboratory findings were made at approximately the same time, one from routine raw meat examination by the Public Health Laboratory, the other from a specimen obtained from a small boy ill in hospital whose home was some twenty-five miles away from the raw meat wholesaler's premises. The meat concerned was sausage meat, and on investigation by your additional public health inspector a history was obtained that the small boy had recently had two separate day outings from his village, on both of which occasions he had eaten "hot dogs". The circumstantial and scientific evidence was very powerful against the "hot dogs".

Arising from this case and much previous laboratory investigation at the Dorchester Public Health Laboratory, the local importation of certain high protein animal feeding stuffs found to be highly infected with food poisoning organisms was voluntarily stopped.

WATER SUPPLIES.

(1) With the exception of two small areas at Thornicombe and Spetisbury, a piped water supply is available throughout the rural district. The water is supplied by the Poole and East Dorset Water Board, and is satisfactory in quantity and quality.

(ii) Samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Dorchester were reported as follows:-

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>	<u>Totals.</u>
Water Board Supplies.....	27	0	27
Private Wells.....	11	22	33

Most of the unsatisfactory samples from private wells were obtained in the Spetisbury and Thornicombe areas.

The following information, requested by the Ministry, was kindly supplied by the Poole and East Dorset Board:-

<u>RAW WATER.</u>	<u>Total No. of Samples.</u>	<u>M.O.H. Classification</u> (Report 71)				<u>Max. P.C. at 37 deg. C.</u>	<u>Coli.l. demonstrat</u>
		1.	2.	3.	5.		
Milborne St. Andrew.	20	13.	5.	2.	-	25	-
Black Lane.	25	17.	6.	2.	-	200	-
Bryanston.	16	6	1.	3.	6.	1500	5
Blandford St. Mary.	-	8	-	-	-	11	-
<u>DISTRIBUTED WATER</u>							
Milborne St. Andrew.	14	14	-	-	-		
Black Lane.	23	23	-	-	-		
Bryanston.	16	14	1	1	-		
Blandford St. Mary.	4	4	-	-	-		

Details of Analyses made in the Poole
& East Dorset Water Board Laboratory during the period
1st April, 1960 - 1st August, 1960.

RAW WATER

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Coli-Aerogenes</u> <u>Count per 100 ml.</u>	<u>Plate Count</u> <u>at 37 deg.C per ml.</u>	<u>pH</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Hardness.</u>
20/4.	Milborne St. Andrew.	0	0	7.5	17.0
20/4.	Black Lane.	0	0	7.1	17.5
11/5.	Milborne St. Andres.	0	25	7.3	17.2
1/6.	Black Lane.	0	2	7.4	16.5
20/6.	Milborne St. Andres.	0	0	7.2	16.9
20/6.	Black Lane.	0	0	7.4	16.7
29/6.	Milborne St. Andrew.	1	0	7.3	17.6
14/7.	Black Lane.	0	0	-	-
26/7.	Bryanston.	4	16	7.3	18.0

DISTRIBUTED WATER:-

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Source.</u>	<u>M.O.H.</u> <u>Classification.</u>	<u>pH</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Hardness.</u>	<u>Residual</u> <u>Cl₂ ppm</u>
20/4.	Black Lane.	1	7.5	17.1	0.45
16/5.	Bryanston	1	7.3	16.1	Nil
16/5.	Blandford St. Mary.	1	7.2	15.9	Nil
1/6.	Black Lane.	1	7.4	16.5	0.20
20/6.	Milborne St. Andrew.	1	7.5	17.2	0.25
20/6.	Black Lane.	1	7.3	17.1	0.13
29/6.	Milborne St. Andrew.	1	7.3	17.2	Nil
14/7.	Black Lane.	1	7.4	16.6	0.18
26/7.	Blandford Town Area.	3 samples all Class 1	-	-	-

- (iii) None of the piped supplies are liable to plumbo-solvent action.
- (iv) All water supplied by the Board is chlorinated at source.
- (v) The Spetisbury and Thornicombe areas must await a piped supply, meanwhile boiling, or filtration with a small domestic apparatus, offers the only certain safeguard.
- (vi) The table below gives the number of dwelling-houses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains.
(a) direct to the houses, and (b) by means of stand-pipes.
It is believed to be reasonably accurate within the limitations imposed by staffing.

Of the 118 houses served by standpipes, many could be given an indoor supply by the powers given under the Public Health Act if the Council chose to exercise these powers.

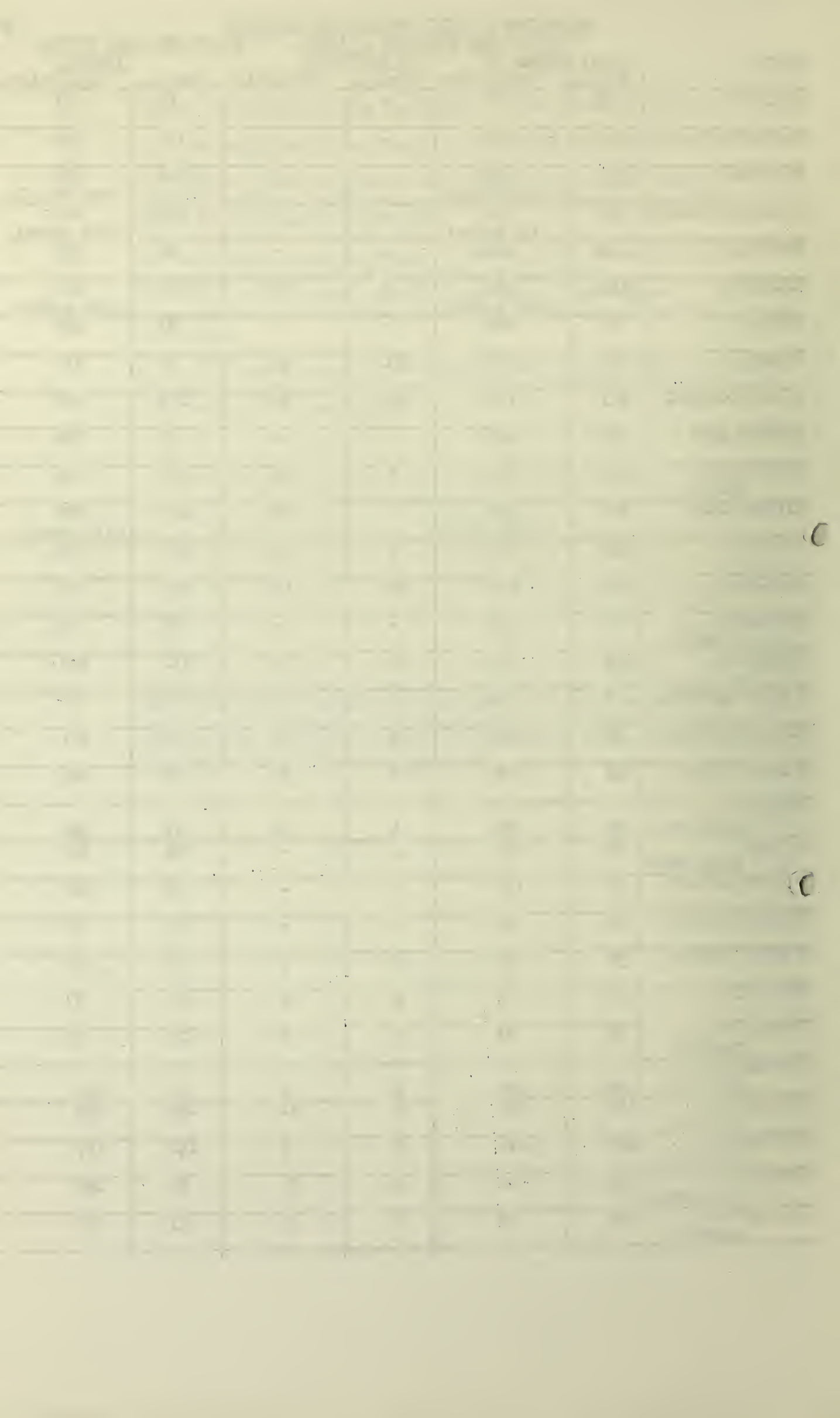
During the year I was called into consultation by the D.D.M.S. of the South Western Command in connection with steps which became necessary to ensure the continuing purity of the Blandford Camp Water Supply, a threat to which had been posed by an unusual and progressive form of animal husbandry.

STATEMENT OF WATER SUPPLIES IN DISTRICT

9

AS AT 31st DECEMBER - 1960. - HOUSES ON MAINS SUPPLY

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>Total Number of</u>		<u>BY STANDPIPE</u>		<u>INSIDE.</u>	
	<u>Houses.</u>	<u>Population.</u>	<u>Houses.</u>	<u>Population.</u>	<u>Houses.</u>	<u>Population.</u>
ANDERSON	25	67	-	-	25	67
BLANDFORD ST. MARY	118	313	-	-	116	309
BRYANSTON	149	698 with school.	-	-	149	698 with school.
CHARLTON MARSHALL	245	744 with school	-	-	213	659 with school.
CHETTLE	29	105	-	-	29	105
DURVESTON	131	381 with school.	9	15	116	351 with school.
FARNHAM	63	220	-	-	63	220
HILTON	120	375	11	18	95	330
IWERNE COURTNEY	133	411	10	19	123	392
LANGTON LONG	90	218	-	-	90	218
MILBORNE ST. ANDREW.	169	538	5	14	162	519
MILTON ABBAS.	171	550 with school.	8	20	163	530 with school
PILPERNE	335	690	8	22	327	668
SPETISBURY	141	441	10	16	119	395
STEEPLETON IWERNE.	12	48	-	-	12	48
STOURPAIN	137	390	18	33	111	332
TARRANT GRANTFORD	9	31	-	-	9	31
TARRANT GUNVILLE	73	275	2	4	67	261
TARRANT HINTON	47	187	2	5	45	182
TARRANT KEYNASTON	58	218	4	9	51	196
TARRANT LAUNCESTON	26	198	-	-	26	198
TARRANT MONKTON	36	467	-	-	36	467
TARRANT RANSTON	18	58	-	-	18	58
TARRANT RUSHTON	32	365	2	7	30	358
TURNWORTH	26	83	4	12	22	71
WINTERBORNE CLENSTON	24	81	3	8	20	70
WINTERBORNE HOUGHTON	54	155	2	6	51	147
WINTERBORNE KINGSTON	126	432	9	21	109	391
WINTERBORNE STICKLAND	152	476	2	5	148	467
WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH	94	502	6	24	82	456
WINTERBORNE ZILLSTON	25	89	1	1	23	86



**STATEMENT OF WATER SUPPLIES IN DISTRICT
AS AT 31st DECEMBER - 1960**

9

PARISH	Houses on Private Supplies				Houses on Wells etc	
	STANDPIPES		INSIDE			
	Houses.	Population.	Houses.	Population.	Houses.	Population.
Anderson.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blandford St. Mary.	2	4	-	-	-	-
Bryanston.	-	-	-	-	-	Population includes public school.
Charlton Marshall.	-	-	23	60	9	25 (ditto)
Chettle.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Durweston.	-	-	4	10	2	5 (ditto)
Farnham.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hilton.	-	-	11	20	3	7
Iwerne Courtney.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Langton Long.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Milborne St. Andrew.	-	-	1	3	1	2
Milton Abbas	-	-	-	-	-	(ditto)
Pimperne.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spetisbury	-	-	12	30	(12)	(30)
(The private supplies are all based on wells)						
Stepleton Iwerne.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stourpaine.	-	-	8	25	-	-
Tarrant Crawford.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tarrant Gunville.	-	-	4	10	-	-
Tarrant Hinton.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tarrant Keyneston.	-	-	3	13	-	-
Tarrant Launceston.	-	-	-	-	-	(includes civilians at Camp)
Tarrant Monkton.	-	-	-	-	-	(ditto)
Tarrant Rawston.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tarrant Rushton.	-	-	-	-	-	(ditto)
Turnworth.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winterborne Clenston.	-	-	-	-	1	3
Winterborne Houghton.	-	-	-	-	1	2
Winterborne Kingston.	-	-	-	-	8	20
Winterborne Stickland.	-	-	2	4	-	-
Winterborne Whitechurch.	-	-	6	22	-	(includes 38 caravans)
Winterborne Zelston	-	-	-	-	1	2



WATER SUPPLIES - Contd.

An example of the desirability of insisting upon the installation of piped internal water supplies and sinks occurred during the year, exemplified by my report to the Public Health Committee in July from which I quote:-

"A firm of Bournemouth solicitors have drawn my attention, via your Public Health Inspector, to the condition of an old man living in Shroton, presumably with a view to possible action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act.

Having visited these premises and seen the health visitor's report to the County Medical Officer of Health on the conditions, I could not regard the old man as suitable for action under Section 47.

The house is however particularly unsuitable for an old person lacking as it does any modern conveniences. The sanitary arrangements consist in practice of a pail in the sitting room, not emptied frequently enough, the bucket closet in the garden being reached by a rough unmade path quite unsuited to the needs of an old person and obviously unused for that reason. There is no internal water supply, and the cooking facilities were inadequate, leading to the use of utensils precariously balanced on top of an oil stove, which is in any case a danger to the life of an old person.

A Home Help would be likely to defer the old man's need for Part III accommodation provided by the County Council, or the possible eventual need for Section 47 action, but the condition of the house is not likely to help in keeping the services of a Home Help. The major need in this case is the provision of accommodation suitable for the needs of an old person, and in the meantime steps could be taken to improve the existing house, such as the provision of an internal water supply and sink.... "

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are none in the Rural District.

SEWERAGE

The Pimperne scheme was completed and some connections made to private houses, but due to the sudden rise of the springs earlier than usual, further connections were abandoned. The lower sections of the sewer were flooded to overflowing for several weeks late in the year and passing vehicles sprayed very dilute sewage from the road surface.

Reference was made in my report for 1959 to the Public Enquiry held in May, 1950, into the Milborne St. Andrew sewerage scheme, and comment was made upon the number of bucket closets still remaining in council and private houses. Notices to owners requiring them to make connections to the sewer were served but flooding intervened and prevented the work from being carried out during the winter months. Preliminary arrangements were made to connect twenty council houses to the sewer and the work was actually started during 1961. Further progress will be reported in my next annual report.

In December, 1959, a minute requested my views on priority for sewerage schemes, and a report was subsequently presented on the claims of Durweston and Stourpaine which appeared to me to substantially merit priority.

In the case of Durweston, although roughly half the village enjoy the modern facilities provided by the council housing estate plant, the other half is mostly unsatisfactorily drained, partly into an old surface water drain leading away from the village towards the river and opening into a track denoting the existence in former times of a footpath which led to a ford across the River Stour. This track now forms an open sewer which is a morass in winter and a sludge bed in summer. Numerous septic tanks and earth closets exist, the latter associated with soakaways for sink drainage.

One feature especially distinguishing Durweston and earning priority is that, excluding council houses, roughly half the village is Crown property, and schemes exist for modernising these properties which must necessarily remain in abeyance while a sewage scheme is impending.

It is understood that Stourpaine could conveniently be sewered in conjunction with Durweston. Here, the village is drained by an old village drain leading to a catchpit in a meadow near the river, and presumably thence by percolation to the river. This drain, and in practice, sewer, is susceptible to blockage which leads to a most unpleasant seepage of sewage from manholes in the centre of the village.

Most of the cottages in Stourpaine are not connected to this drain, are equipped with earth closets only, and are without sinks. Water could readily be taken inside the houses.

Here again special priority is earned by the impending building for slum clearance and the improvements which it is hoped will be stimulated by the slum clearance survey. These villages are near to Blandford Forum and the opportunities for employment which exist there, and within reasonable distance of Blandford Army Camp, the expansion of which will provide more employment in the near future. They are therefore well placed for expansion and development once the facilities of a modern sewage disposal system are provided.

No difficulties or complications would be experienced in disposing of the effluent since the plant would be close to the River Stour in which high dilution would be very quickly reached, with attendant minimising to negligible proportions of the risks of infection to man and animals.

SHROTON SEWERAGE SCHEME.

A Public Inquiry on this proposal was held several years ago, and during the year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government requested a report from me as to the continuing need for a sewerage scheme on public health grounds. There having been substantial changes during the intervening years of relevance to the scheme, a report was submitted in March to the Public Health Committee and a report for the Ministry, dated 12th May, 1960, was placed in the hands of the Council in that month. The report is reproduced here:-

REPORT ON PUBLIC HEALTH ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED SHROTON SEWERAGE SCHEME.

This report is substantially the same as that made to the Public Health Committee and dated 29/3/60. I am unaware of any changes in circumstances or conditions since then which merit any alteration in my report.

Presumably the factor which originally gave Shroton priority was the direct pollution of the mill stream running through the centre of the village. The condition of this mill stream, which I understand now serves no useful purpose, is greatly aggravated by the diversion of water from it through a sluice gate half way through the village, leaving a considerable length either a stagnant backwater or a muddy ditch. This latter state could be greatly alleviated in winter by manipulation of the sluices or hatches, or abolished by a minor engineering operation cutting off sullage polluted water from it altogether.

The sewage pollution of the mill stream could easily be dealt with by Statutory Nuisance procedure, following which a very few riparian householders might have difficulty in disposing of sewage except by reversion to the outdated earth closet, of which there are numerous other examples, and against which there are increasing aesthetic objections even in the depth of a very rural district, or by installation of a sealed cess pit.

In the event that the alleviative methods outlined above are not followed, the removal of the factors contrary to the interests of public health in the village will depend not only upon Ministry permission for a sewage disposal scheme but also upon connections being made to the sewer when laid, and in this connection I believe that major difficulties will arise.

I am unaware of any Council policy on connections, but in the absence of a firm preconceived policy it is my view that features objectionable to the best interests of the health of the village would persist in large measure despite the installation of a modern disposal system.

To sum up, the village is in much the same position as many other villages with the exception of the embarrassment of the artificial mill stream.

This could be allowed to dry up if co-operation was forthcoming from the estate, which owns about 50% of the village. If this co-operation is not forthcoming it seems speculative as to whether co-operation in the matter of sewage connections to half the village will be forthcoming. If it is not, the scheme would be installed for the remaining half of the village, and since some of these properties might also not be connected, one can envisage a disposal system installed for 100% of the population plus a margin, being used for some thirty or forty per cent of the population, with factors adverse to the health of the village persisting.

The scheme has subsequently been commenced and it remains to be seen what use is made of it.

The matter of detergent foam was raised as an issue during its consideration, and is of some importance bearing in mind that the effluent is to be discharged into a small stream. At present kitchen waste from a very small part of the village enters the stream through old drains. Even if the scheme is but poorly used, the amount of kitchen waste and therefore detergent will obviously be much greater than the present small discharge and time alone will tell if this feature will raise a problem of detergent foaming downstream.

The subject of sewage pollution of the stream was also raised.

At present the only sewage pollution of the stream arises from some suspected furtive emptying of bucket closets by two or three people into street drains, coupled with one or two septic tank, or more direct, effluents. It follows that a sewerage scheme will concentrate a very much greater volume of sewage than this, and since sewerage works neither destroy detergents nor disease producing organisms, the effluent will not only contain the whole of the detergents entering the new system, but also such infection as exists in the households connected to the new scheme, and in particular would be best regarded as potentially infected with tuberculosis, typhoid and para-typhoid fevers, and food poisoning organisms, if cases or carriers exist in any of these households. This is not put forward as by any means a serious objection, but it would in my opinion be contrary to the public health to allow milk herds to drink in a tiny stream receiving such an effluent. Once the stream reached the main river the disease producing germs would rapidly die out.

In January, 1960, a Minute requested me to prepare a report on the desirability, or otherwise, of a main drainage scheme for Farnham. In view of the very limited notice given, my report was necessarily hastily prepared. No complaints had been received from this village by the Public Health Department, but it was known that in times of flood embarrassment occurred from septic tanks which overflowed. Though unable to agree with your consulting engineer's opinion expressed during the year that bucket closets are not contrary to public health, and despite the view that in general I consider that many villages would be better off for a modern sewage disposal plant, I was unable to find any features which would merit high priority for Farnham.

Even a modern sewerage system is liable to flooding and consequent escape of dilute sewage during conditions of abnormal flooding, as was demonstrated in two cases quite near to Farnham during the year. It is hoped, however, that a scheme will become possible for Farnham in due course.

HOUSING

There was a steady improvement in modernisation of dwellings, but inspections were curtailed by the very time consuming and meticulous nature of such work.

Three large villages were resurveyed under the 1957 Housing Act, notices served on some sub-standard dwellings and demolition orders on others.

My approach to this work, and that of your staff, is to ensure that in every case where a recommendation of unfitness for human habitation is to be made under S.16 of the Housing Act, that the original survey contains all the elements necessary to amply support this contention in Court.

The standards applied have been perhaps a little lenient, but it is felt that to cover the whole district in this manner as soon as possible is preferable to adopting more rigorous standards in small areas, with consequent delay in applying such standards to the whole district. The system as applied appears to be very consistent with the requirements of strict fairness to all, and the element of fairness is upset only where owners make over-ambitious offers to render premises fit and find themselves unable to meet their commitments, or where offers are accepted with significant relaxation of the standards of unfitness.

A. New houses completed during the year:-

(1)	By Local Authority.	
	(a) With State Assistance for rehousing.....	6
	(b) With State Assistance for other purposes.....	-
	(c) Without State Assistance.....	-
(2)	By other persons:-	
	(a) With State Assistance.....	-
	(b) Without State Assistance.....	44

B. New houses commenced during the year but not completed:-

(1)	By Local Authority.....	21
(2)	By other persons.....	25

C. Housing Inspections:-

(1)	Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects.	130
(2)	Number of houses found to be so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation.....	39
(3)	Number of houses found not to be in all respects fit for habitation.....	62

D. Housing Action.

(1)	Number of dwellings rendered fit after informal action.	4
(2)	Number of Statutory Notices served.....	3
(3)	Number of Statutory Notices complied with.....	-
(4)	Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders made.	26
(5)	Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	3

IMPROVEMENTS GRANTS.

There was a further increase in the number of grant applications during the year, both Discretionary and Standard grants showing an increase of about 30%. The cost of improvements has remained, on an average, the same as the previous year. The emphasis has been on owner-occupied premises, and especially where there has been a recent change of ownership. It is also interesting to note that there have been very few cases of grant-aided schemes being used merely to enhance the sale value of a dwelling.

Details for 1960 are:-

Discretionary Grants:-

Applications received.....	25
Applications approved.....	25
Number of houses involved.....	36
Amount allocated.....	£11,686

Standard Grants.

Applications approved.....	35
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An average of £113 per property.

Houses Demolished.

Cottage, Dorchester Hill, Blandford St. Mary (Fell down)
 Cottage, Corner Farm Road, Anderson.
 Church Cottages, Winterborne Stickland (2)

Demolition Orders made.

Cottage, Farm Road, Anderson
 1. Main Road, Anderson
 2. Main Road, Anderson
 Cottage, Thornicombe.
 Cottage, Thornicombe.
 Cottage, Lower Blandford St. Mary
 Cottage, Lower Blandford St. Mary
 Stour View, Blandford St. Mary
 Cottage, Church Hill, Milborne.
 Cottage, North Street, Winterborne Kingston
 Cottage, North Street, Winterborne Kingston
 Kozy Kott, Winterborne Kingston.
 18, Havelins, Stourpaine.
 20 Havelins, Stourpaine.
 3 South Holm, Stourpaine.
 7 South Holm, Stourpaine.
 9 South Holm, Stourpaine.

Closing Orders.

No. 15, Shroton.
 1 Goschin
 2 Goschin
 3. Goschin
 17, Little England, Milborne
 18, Little England, Milborne.
 19, Little England, Milborne.
 41, Manor Road, Stourpaine.

Undertakings accepted.

Cottage, The Fairfield, Shroton
 Coachmans Cottage, Down House Estate, Blandford St. Mary.
 The Bothy, Down House Estate, Blandford St. Mary
 Old Hollow, Milborne St. Andrew.
 Cottage, Stoney Lane, Winterborne Kingston
 Cottage, West Down, Winterborne Kingston.
 20, Shroton.
 12 South Holm, Stourpaine.
 14 South Holm, Stourpaine.
 17 South Holm, Stourpaine.
 16, Gravel Lane, Charlton Marshall.

Statutory Notices Served.

Cottage, School Lane, Blandford St. Mary
 58 Shaston Road, Stourpaine.
 Cottage, Telegraph Street, Shroton

Preliminary Notices served.

Cottage, Winterborne Tomson occupied by Lock (work done)
 Cottage, Winterborne Tomson occupied by Bruce (work done)
 1. Blandford St. Mary. 2. Blandford St. Mary. 3. Blandford St. Mary
 4. Blandford St. Mary.
 Cottage, Church Street, Winterborne Kingston (work done)
 19 Blandford Hill, Milborne.
 Frogmore House, Milborne. (void) 2 Ben Marie, Milborne. Cottage next to Royal Oak, Milborne. 30 Little England. Cottage, The Grovem Milborne. 30 Little England.
 Cottage, The Grove, Milborne. Lane's Cottage, Blandford Hill, Milborne.
 Crown House, Milborne (void). Cottage Little England (Biles) nothing to be done during lifetime of Mr. Biles.)
 Brookside, Milborne. 1 Havelins, Stourpaine (no action to be taken)
 Cottage, Bessels, Shroton. Cottage, Bessels, Shroton.

STATUTORY NUISANCES.

A general practitioner wrote to me during the year complaining of conditions in front of two cottages occupied by elderly people in Stourpaine. The doctor claimed that there was a stagnant and disgusting quagmire of mud and cowdung which he considered to be detrimental to health. He went on to say that no country person, including a general practitioner, minds a few earthy aromas, but that this condition was becoming too much of a "bad thing."

Having inspected this site I found myself in complete agreement with the doctor, and I reported the condition in March, 1960, as constituting a Statutory Nuisance, being prejudicial to health. Since no one was in default in this matter I reminded the Council of their powers under S.265 of the Public Health Act under which they could take all necessary steps to remedy the nuisance. These steps amounted to a few loads of hardcore being deposited and roughly levelled.

At its worst this morass served to trap an elderly sick man in his cottage unless he traversed his neighbour's garden, the evil mixture of mud and cowdung being at least a foot deep and extending from hedge to hedge. Other occupants of the cottages were adversely affected, as also was anyone using the footpath past the cottages.

No action was however taken by the Council under P.III of the Public Health Act, and I understand from your Chief Public Health Inspector that the offensive conditions recur from time to time when very wet weather coincides with the passage to and fro four times a day of a very large herd of cows. Flies and smell are additional disabilities to which the occupants of the cottages are subject.

COMPLAINTS

There were fewer complaints during the year, approximately 20% less than in the previous year. Flooding, smoke and noise were additional reasons for complaint. The Council is already aware that concern has been expressed regarding the failure of landowners and others to repair, cleanse or maintain the drains, ditches, streams and rivers traversing their land. Fortunately the flooding which occurred in your district caused little damage to private property but a number of houses were flooded to a depth of several inches, causing considerable hardship to the families affected. New legislation is urgently required to deal with the situation.

Whenever the circumstances have warranted taking action, this has been done either informally or by service of statutory notice.

The complaints were made up as follows:-

Housing.....	12
Drainage.....	11
Infestations.....	1
Keeping of animals.....	5
Refuse.....	3
Smells.....	2
Flooding.....	5
Smoke nuisance.....	2
Noise abatement.....	1
Miscellaneous.....	4
	<u>46</u>

REFUSE AND SALVAGE.

Meetings took place with representatives of the Blandford Borough Council regarding the possibility of a joint disposal site under controlled tipping. The idea has many advantages to both Councils, but a suitable site agreeable to both Councils has yet to be found. The Council is reminded that the present tip, unsatisfactory in many ways, has a remaining life of only a very few years and every endeavour should be made to solve the problem before this time expires.

The Collection Staff of two men have continued to perform their unpleasant job with cheerfulness, goodwill and very little grumbling. The general public takes this service very much for granted, although it is doubtful if many would undertake the task.

There was an approximate drop of 10% on the salvage figures during the year. Prices were very low during the year and probably account for most of the difference.

The salvage figures for 1960 are:-

Cardboard.....	£5. 5. 0.
Waste Paper.....	£187.17. 6)
Additional.....	8. 5. 0)
Rags.....	9. 1. 6
Woollens.....	4.14. 6
Iron scrap.....	26.15. 0
Brass scrap.....	15.16. 6
Copper scrap.....	4.12. 0
Aluminium scrap.....	8.15. 6
Batteries.....	1. 8. 0
	<u>£272.10. 6</u>

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS -FACTORIES ACT, 1957 - 1959

There have been a few deletions from the Factory Register during the year and a reduction in the numbers of inspections made. It has not been necessary to recommend formal proceedings for breaches of the Regulations.

(1) Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health:-

<u>PREMISES.</u> (1)	<u>Number on</u> <u>Register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Number of:-</u> <u>Written</u> <u>Notices.</u>	<u>Occupiers</u> <u>prosecuted.</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	35	19	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	20	20	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority(excluding out-workers' premises).....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>TOTAL:-</u>	55	39	Nil	Nil

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS - FACTORIES ACT, 1957 - 1959 - Contd.

(2) Cases in which defects were found:-

<u>PARTICULARS.</u> (1)	<u>Number of cases in which defects</u>				<u>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</u>
	<u>Found</u> (2)	<u>Remedied.</u> (3)	<u>Were found. Referred to:</u> <u>H.M. Insp.</u> (4)	<u>by H.M. Insp.</u> (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S1).....	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding. (S2).....	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S3)..	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation. (S4)...	-	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTALS</u>	1	1	-	-	-

No other defects were found.

RODENT CONTROL

There was a reported increase in the rat population at the end of the year, with possibly a greater number than for several years. The mild early winter allowed the rodents to remain in the fields much later than usual, bad harvesting circumstances left plenty of food for them and this resulted in reasonable breeding conditions. Infestations were small and widespread thus requiring more than usual baiting and poisoning.

Blandford Camp, where rodent control was non-existent, is now under control by a private contractor and conditions are very much improved.

There is also a pleasing increase in the number of farms where private contracts have been let for rodent control. The private contractors' work in close liaison with the Council's staff throughout the district.

There were fewer fly infestations reported and dealt with than in previous years and despite the large numbers of queen wasps that escaped destruction in 1959, very few wasps nests were reported for destruction in 1960. Most of these were in or around buildings.

Five colonies of bees, causing nuisances, were destroyed.

RODENT CONTROL

	<u>Council</u> <u>Premises.</u>	<u>Private</u> <u>Premises.</u>	<u>Business</u> <u>Premises.</u>	<u>Agricultural</u> <u>Premises.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Total number of visits made...	49	1080	98	233	1460
Total number of premises:-					
(a) inspected on complaint....	-	59	1	10	70
(b) inspected on survey.....	16	343	46	53	458
Total number of premises:-					
(a) treated for rat infestat-					
ion...	4	148	4	34	190
(b) treated for mouse infestat-					
ion...	-	22	3	4	29

SUMMARY OF VISITS.

Nuisances.....	104
Housing Acts.....	709
Food Premises.....	82
Milk Samples.....	4
Building Byelaws.....	815
Drainage.....	297
Water Supplies.....	113
Water samples.....	73
Refuse.....	76
Factories.....	17
Rats/Mice.....	3
Dangerous buildings.....	5
Rights of Way.....	3
Rivers Pollution.....	51
Sewerage.....	233
Sewerage samples.....	3
Petroleum.....	39
Disinfestations.....	4
Caravans.....	54
Food poisoning.....	5
Keeping of animals.....	8
Noise abatement.....	11
Town and Country planning.....	57
Number of meetings attended.....	84
Miscellaneous.....	23

TOTALS..... 2873
